

Safety Record at Joliet Arsenal Cited

Achievement of operations for more than a year without a lost-time accident by seven branches of Joliet arsenal, was cited recently by Lt. Col. Raymond C. Costabile, commanding officer, when he presented certificates of merit, awarded by the office of chief of ordnance to members of his staff.

The ordnance department has long stressed production with safety and the fact that safety is a responsibility of operating officials, and in this connection has recently established procedures whereby official recognition is made in the form of the citations for fine safety records.

In praising his branch chiefs for their records, Col. Costabile re-emphasized his interest in safety and said that he would continue to expect his staff to constantly seek improved and safer operational methods during the coming year.

"I AM GOING to look for positive action on your part to develop and provide for production with safety," he said at the presentation ceremony. "Furthermore, I expect you to insure that all your supervisors discharge their responsibilities completely, particularly to realize positively that the responsibility of safety rests solely with them as supervisors and not with the safety department, and to act accordingly."

"I am not detracting from this present award, but it covers the period that is now passed and I am concerned with the future. It is a pleasure to make these awards, and I certainly expect to be making awards to each of you again next year as well as to the rest of my staff who are not presently eligible," he added.

THE CITATIONS accompanying the certificates of merit, read as follows for the respective branches:

"Production: This branch is concerned with ammunition load-

ing, assembling and packing, renovation, research and development, demilitarization, modification and normal maintenance on a variety of items ranging from fuze components up to and including 42,000-pound bombs. This branch has operated without a lost-time accident from June 7, 1948 to October 1, 1949. This involves a total of 32,000 man hours of exposure during this period."

"Transportation: This branch is concerned with the operation and repair of automotive vehicles, heavy equipment, diesel locomotives and the transporting of personnel, ammunition and explosives. This branch has operated without a lost-time accident from January 1, 1947 to October 1, 1949. This involves a total of 495,000 man hours of exposure during this period."

ORDNANCE maintenance: This branch is concerned with the fabrication and maintenance of renovation, demilitarization and production line equipment, and the operation of the machine and welding shops. Also included is the maintenance of machines and equipment for other units of the department of defense. This branch has operated without a lost-time accident from January, 1947, to 1 October 1949. This includes a total of 528,000 man hours of exposure during this period."

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"Repairs and utilities: This branch is concerned with the construction, maintenance, and repair of buildings, roads and grounds, operation of water, electric, sewage disposal and power plant utilities, plus the operation of warehouse, paint, carpenter, electric, plumbing, welding, pipe and steam fitting, and sheet metal shops. This branch has operated without a lost-time accident from February 18, 1947 to May 6, 1948, and from May 8, 1948 to October 1, 1949. This involves a

total of 450,000 man hours of exposure for the first period and 487,500 man hours of exposure for the second period."

Inspection: This branch is concerned with the operation of the burning ground for the destruction of obsolete and/or hazardous ammunition, inspection of demilitarization, production line, research and development items. This branch has operated without a lost-time accident from January 1, 1947 to October 1, 1949. This involves a total of 198,000 man hours of exposure during this period."

"Surveillance: This branch is concerned with the disassembly and testing of ammunition, ammunition components and bulk explosives to determine condition, and normal surveillance of all ammunition storage. This branch has operated without a lost-time accident from January 1, 1947 to October 1, 1949. This involves a total of 165,000 man hours of exposure during this period."

"Security: This branch is concerned with the fire and guard protection of the installation. This branch has operated without a lost-time accident from January 1, 1947 to October 1, 1949. This

involves a total of 330,000 man hours of exposure during this period."

Seven branches of Joliet arsenal received safety awards. Maj. F. L. Stayner represented the repairs and utilities branch; M. W. Hazen, production; Capt. E. J. Burns, transportation; Capt. G. P. Schipporeit, ordnance maintenance; J. B. Nix, surveillance; G. Burt, inspection; and Chief R. W. Mortenson, security. Also present at the ceremony were Maj. H. R. Suess, executive officer; Capt. G. Eddy, safety officer; and W. A. Hardesty, Jr., safety engineer.